

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR TEST HEAD TESTING OF CONNECTIONS OF A
SONET ELEMENT

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of configuring a SONET network element to support a test head test session comprises dedicating an otherwise assignable output port of a SONET network element as a test access port, receiving a request to connect a connection 5 switched by a switch fabric of the SONET network element to the test access port, determining whether the request is associated with a test head; and, if the request is associated with the test head, provisioning the switch fabric to connect the connection to the test access port.